

[illegible]

[c14]

[c1 0]

[c1 1]

[c1 2]

[c13]

The apparatus in accordance with claim 9 wherein the gasket comprises an inflated bladder.

The apparatus in accordance with claim 8 wherein the rim comprises a circumferential flange.

a vessel having an open end and adapted to encompass the tissue to be enlarged;

a mass of elastic material affixed to the perimeter of the open end of said vessel to transform said vacuum applied to create a seal and force diffuser for the forces between the interior of the vessel and the tissue on which said vessel rests.

[c14]

The apparatus in accordance with claim 13, wherein said vessel has a shape generally conforming to the shape of the tissue to be enlarged.

[c15]

The apparatus in accordance with claim 13, wherein said vessel has an interior volume greater than the volume of the tissue to be enlarged.

[c16]

The apparatus in accordance with claim 13, wherein said vessel has a shape which is varied to control the configuration of the resultant enlargement.

[c17]

The apparatus in accordance with claim 13, wherein said vessel is dome-shaped and open at one end to encircle the tissue to be enlarged.

[c18]

The apparatus in accordance with claim 13, wherein said vessel has an opening separate from said open end for connection to a source of vacuum.

[c19]

The apparatus in accordance with claim 13, wherein said elastic material surrounds an air pocket.

[c20]

An apparatus for enhancing living tissue comprising:

a vessel having an open end and adapted to encompass the tissue to be enlarged;

a source of vacuum connected to said vessel;

a flexible mass attached to the open end of the vessel to act as a seal and force distributor between the vessel and the tissue adjacent the periphery of said vessel.

[c21]

A method of enhancing soft living tissue comprising:

providing an apparatus comprising a vessel having a rim defining an open end and a flexible mass secured to the rim;